

# Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

April 1997

		Time Local/	Path Length	Path Width	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		
Location	Date	Standard	(Miles)	(Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	Character of Storm

## NEW MEXICO Southeast

Lea County 16 E Crossroads	22	1620MST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Lea County Tatum	24	1345MST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Lea County Tatum	24	1420MST			0	0			Hail (0.88)

Nickel size hail covered the ground.

Lea County 10 S Jal to Jal	24	2125MST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
Lea County 5 S Hobbs	24	2145MST 2215MST			0	0			Hail (0.88)

## TEXAS West

Scurry County Snyder	02	1925CST 1935CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
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A Left-split storm accelerated northward through Scurry County and hit Snyder with hail up to nickel size and winds gusting to 47 mph.

Culberson County Pine Spgs	09	1650MST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Andrews County 2 S Florey	09	2120CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)

Thunderstorms developed along a frontal boundary near the western side of the southwest Texas Mountains. A severe thunderstorm was reported by Guadalupe Mountains National Park personnel at the Park in northwestern Culberson County. During the evening the frontal boundary began to move northward. A severe thunderstorm developed in Andrews County along this boundary and dropped quarter size hail north of Andrews.

Gaines County Seminole	10	1550CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Gaines County 10 ESE Seminole to 12 E Seminole	10	1621CST 1627CST	2.2	130	0	0	10K		Tornado (F1)

The first tornado of this supercell formed just south of U.S. Highway 180 and moved to the ENE for much of its life, then veered sharply to the north as it roped-out crossing the highway. Two telephone poles were downed along the highway--one holding a transformer.

Gaines County 14 E Seminole	10	1633CST 1643CST	2.6	250	0	0	80K		Tornado (F1)
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This second tornado was spawned about two miles east of where tornado # 1 dissipated. This tornado tracked to the northeast and overturned two center-pivot irrigation systems. The second system looked as if a couple of sections had become airborne from the resulting damage which snapped off a large wheel.

Dawson County Welch	10	1718CST 1723CST			0	0	300K		Hail (2.50)
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Dawson County 5 NE Welch	10	1743CST 1745CST	0.2	80	0	0			Tornado (F1)
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This third tornado formed in open country northeast of Welch and was very short-lived. The storm then entered southwestern Lynn County (see Lubbock synopsis).

The beginnings of a monster storm were in western Andrews County along the dry line and began moving to the northeast. Just after leaving Seminole in central Gaines County this storm became a supercell and turned almost straight east. According to the ICMF 88D average storm movement was 221 degrees at 26 kt, but this supercell turned and slowed to 268 degrees at 14 kt (47 degrees to the right at 54% speed).

The storm continued into the Texas South Plains where it produced numerous other tornadoes and caused one fatality.

The environment for the storms according to the rawinsonde sounding that evening on the SHARP workstation showed a buoyancy of about 2800 J/kg for the best lifted parcel and 1700 J/kg for a mean low level parcel. A cap of 65 J/kg kept other storms from forming in the area.

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Midland County Greenwood	10	2055CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Midland County Greenwood	10	2100CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Scurry County 8 W Ira	10	2148CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
Scurry County Fluvanna	10	2215CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
Ector County 5 N Odessa	10	2255CST 2305CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Ector County 4 E Odessa	10	2311CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Midland County Maf	10	2318CST			0	0			Hail (1.25)
Midland County 3 SSW Midland	10	2330CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Crane County 9 N Crane	10	2345CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Midland County Greenwood	10	2347CST 2355CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Howard County Big Spring	11	0010CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Scurry County 15 W Snyder	11	0030CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G57)
Upton County Midkiff	11	0040CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Midland County 21 SE Midland	11	0052CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Scurry County Snyder	11	0101CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Scurry County Snyder	11	0101CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G54)
Glasscock County Garden City	11	0110CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Mitchell County 5 S Westbrook	11	0153CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
After over three hours of quiet weather following the earlier supercell in Gaines and Dawson Counties, some light showers moving eastward into Ector County (Odessa) rapidly intensified into multicell severe thunderstorms. Eventually these cells organized into a squall line east of Midland.									
Reagan County 2 W Texon	16	1622CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Dawson County 6 NE Lamesa	16	1722CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Howard County 5 N Big Spring	16	1722CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Howard County Big Spring	16	1729CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Scurry County 5 W Ira	16	1815CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)

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<b>TEXAS, West</b>									
Howard County Sand Spgs	16	1825CST 1840CST			0	0		Hail (0.75)	
Howard County Forsan	16	1826CST			0	0		Hail (0.75)	
Scurry County Ira	16	1845CST 1900CST			0	0		Hail (1.75)	
Scurry County Dunn	16	1927CST			0	0		Hail (1.00)	
		No parameters were overly impressive with this series of events. Dew point temperature were only in the lower 50s and wind fields were weak at all levels. However, a cold front sagging into the area supplied a focus and a lift for deep convection.							
Borden County Lake J B Thomas Martin County	16	1826CST			0	0		Hail (0.88)	
4 ENE Flower Grove to Flower Grove	16	1855CST			0	0		Hail (1.50)	
Mitchell County Colorado City	16	1946CST			0	0		Hail (1.25)	
Midland County 3 N Midland	22	2000CST			0	0		Hail (0.88)	
		A shallow cold front had moved through the region during the previous night, but upslope low level flow into the south-central New Mexico mountains developed thunderstorms. A strong north westerly flow in the mid levels sent a large storm quickly to the southeast. Riding on top of the frontal inversion, the storm became very well organized with signs of very intense and sustained rotation. One brief unconfirmed funnel cloud was reported, but the cool layer of air near the surface apparently kept any rotations from lowering.							
Reeves County 10 SW Toyah	23	1924CST			0	0		Hail (1.00)	
Reeves County 2 E Toyah	23	1930CST			0	0		Hail (1.75)	
Crane County 1 SE Crane	23	2105CST			0	0	4K	Thunderstorm Wind	
		Downburst winds from a thunderstorm knocked down trees and powerlines, and caused roof damage to a few houses.							
		Dew Point temperatures in the upper 40s did not seem promising for this evening, but with a strong northwest flow aloft, excellent relative inflow was established for these storms.							
Dawson County 5 SW Lamesa	24	1610CST 1612CST	0.2	40	0	0		Tornado (F0)	
		A small landspout tornado was briefly generated southwest of Lamesa from a towering cumulus cloud. The cloud continued to evolve into a weak shower over Lamesa as it moved to the northeast.							
Winkler County 10 N Kermit	24	2225CST			0	0		Hail (0.88)	
Pecos County Ft Stockton	24	2230CST			0	0		Hail (0.75)	
Pecos County Ft Stockton	24	2230CST			0	0	5K	Thunderstorm Wind	
		Downburst winds downed telephone lines and wind-driven hail broke windows in Fort Stockton.							
Andrews County 5 S Andrews	24	2318CST			0	0		Hail (1.00)	
		A day with all kinds of dynamics but little moisture. Wind fields were strong at all levels, but dew points were only in the mid 40s. Severe reports were only marginal compared to what some were expecting considering the very high shear and helicity values.							